

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for indicating the status of at least one serviceable item on a subassembly comprising:
 - determining said status of said at least one serviceable item using a host controller in communication with said subassembly;
 - 5 storing said status in a memory location within said subassembly;
 - removing said subassembly from communication with said host controller; and
 - querying said memory location within said subassembly such that said status of said at least one serviceable items is indicated.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said at least one serviceable item comprises a plurality of disk drives.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein said host controller is a RAID controller.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said power source comprises a battery.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein said battery is rechargeable.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein said indicating is performed by illuminating an LED.
7. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - replacing at least one of said at least one serviceable item based on said indicator;
 - changing said status in said memory location;
 - 5 connecting said subassembly to said host controller; and
 - reading said status from said memory location by said host controller.
8. A system for indicating the status of a plurality of serviceable items on a subassembly comprising:
 - a host controller in communication with said subassembly and adapted to determine said status of said plurality of serviceable items;

5 a memory location on said subassembly and adapted to store said status of said at least one serviceable item, said memory location further adapted to be written by said host controller;

a circuit contained within said subassembly adapted to read said memory and indicate said status of said plurality of serviceable items; and

10 a power source adapted to power said circuit.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein said serviceable items comprises a plurality of disk drives.

10. The system of claim 9 wherein said host controller is a RAID controller.

11. The system of claim 8 wherein said power source comprises a battery.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein said battery is rechargeable.

13. The system of claim 8 further comprising a plurality of LED indicators.

14. The system of claim 8 wherein said circuit is further adapted to update said status in said memory location and said host controller is further adapted to read said memory location when said subassembly is reconnected to said host controller.

15. A system for indicating the status of at least one serviceable item on a subassembly comprising:

a first means in communication with said subassembly and adapted to determine said status of said at least one serviceable item;

5 a second means on said subassembly and adapted to store said status of said at least one serviceable item, said second means further adapted to communicate with said first means;

a third means contained within said subassembly and adapted to read said second means and indicate said status of said plurality of serviceable items; and

10 a fourth means for powering said third means.

16. The system of claim 15 wherein said serviceable items comprises a plurality of disk drives.

17. The system of claim 16 wherein said first means comprises a RAID controller.

18. The system of claim 15 wherein said fourth means comprises a battery.
19. The system of claim 18 wherein said battery is rechargeable.
20. The system of claim 15 further comprising a plurality of LED indicators.
21. The system of claim 15 wherein said third means is further adapted to update said status in said second means and said first means is further adapted to read said second means when said subassembly is connected to said first means.